(SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) A scheme for strengthening and improvement of Sub-transmission and distribution system in the States of the North Eastern Region was formulated by the Central Electricity Authority in consultation with the constituent States. The scheme envisages the completion of on-going projects for which Planning Commission has been requested to provide funds from the Non-lapsable Pool. It is also proposed to finance new projects which are critical for improving the Sub-transmission and distribution system. The new projects will be financed by utilising funds available in the Plan Budget of Ministry of Power (Rs. 50 crores) during the year 2000-2001 and from the Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP). The modalities for funding projects under the APDP scheme are being finalised by the Planning Commission. A provision of Rs. 1000 crores has been made in the Budget for 2000-01 in Demand No. 30 of Ministry of Finance for the APDP scheme for assisting State Governments in taking up Renovation and Modernisation projects and for improvement of the Sub-transmission and distribution system.

EHV Network for NER

4809. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for EHV network connecting all State capitals of North Eastern Region; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) All State capitals of North-Eastern Region are already connected with Regional Grid at EHV level. POWER GRID is in the process of establishing an EHV network in North-East Region for evacuation of power from Central Sector generation projects and strengthening the regional EHV network alongwith State grid systems

Subsidy for REC Works in North East

4810. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide interests subsidy for REC works for tribal areas in the North East;